

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the Office Action mailed June 16, 2004. Claims 1, 3-11 and 13-14 are presented for examination. Claims 2 and 12 have been canceled, and Claims 1 and 11 have been amended.

Applicants note with appreciation the statement in the Office Action that Claims 8-10 are allowed, and Claims 2-4, 7, 12 and 14 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of Claim 2, and Claim 2 has been canceled. Similarly, Claim 11 has been amended to include the limitations of Claim 12, and Claim 12 has been canceled. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that all claims are now in condition for allowance.

Drawings

It is suggested in the Office Action that Figure 1 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art--. Figure 1 has been amended in accordance with this suggestion, and replacement drawing sheet 1 of 2 is submitted herewith.

Rejection of Claims 1, 5, 6, 11 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) over Kawai et al.

Claims 1, 5, 6, 11 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,560,164 to Kawai et al. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Independent Claim 1 is directed to a timing circuit. Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable Claim 2. In the Office Action, it is stated that the prior art fails to teach or suggest the limitation of Claim 2. For this reason, Applicants respectfully submit that amended Claim 1, which now includes the limitation of Claim 2, is not anticipated by Kawai et al. Claims 5 and 6, which include all of the limitations of Claim 1, are also not anticipated by Kawai et al.

Independent Claim 11 is directed to a method for changing a clock period. Claim 11 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable Claim 12. In the Office Action, it is stated that the prior art fails to teach or suggest the limitation of Claim 10/604,057

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12. For this reason, Applicants respectfully submit that amended Claim 11, which now includes the limitation of Claim 12, is not anticipated by Kawai et al. Claim 13, which includes all of the limitations of Claim 11, is also not anticipated by Kawai et al.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or believes further discussion will aid examination and advance prosecution of the application, a telephone call to the undersigned is invited.

No fee is believed to be due for the submission of this amendment. If any fees are required, however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 09-0458.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Margaret A. Pepper", is written over a solid horizontal line.

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